

**Brindabella Bushwalking Club**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021-22**

The year was initially disrupted by Covid-19 restrictions with our events commencement delayed several months. Fortunately, this was followed by a gradual ramp up of the walking program during October to December 2021, returning to our normal published programs for January-June and July-December 2022.

During the Covid hiatus, the executive committee kept busy and published revised guidelines for walk leaders as well as other operational forms to align and be consistent with Bushwalking NSW guidance and published documentation. In particular, ensuring clarity in respect of walk safety, walk leader and participant responsibilities when walking and our duty of care around accommodating younger walkers.

With the marked increase in fuel costs, transport costs increased to 14c/km from 1/7/2022. The committee will continue to closely monitor fuel costs. Membership fees remain the same for the forthcoming year.

We participated in several ACT Government initiated outdoors studies. One on the Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve and a second on Namadgi Walking Trails. Our feedback to both of these studies emphasised the need to protect and enhance the existing trails and facilities as well as the provision of additional facilities at several of the more frequented trail-heads which currently lack even basic amenities.

With NPA and CBC, we wrote jointly to the ACT Minister responsible for repairs to Rocky Crossing in Namadgi NP to get an update on these repairs thereby allowing vehicle access to Orroral Valley in support of broader bushwalking and outside activities. The minister's response indicated that, weather permitting, repairs were scheduled to complete later in 2022.

Part way through the year our website manager and newsletter editor agreed to swap roles. This was done in a very smooth and seamless way as is evidenced by the continuing quality and value of content in both the website and the monthly newsletter. The website has been substantially updated with much improved indexes/links to current and past newsletters and walk reports as well as updated resources for members. The newsletter continues to be a most informative and entertaining read and remains an important channel for the communication of current events as well as the occasional reminder of things to be mindful of when undertaking walks.

I will let the other committee members provide a more detailed report on their activities during the year but just to highlight/remind us all of what happens behind the scenes, we have an active training programme, a popular Facebook presence and a very well received social events programme.

Finally, the smooth running of the clubs' administrative responsibilities is the result of very capable and committed officers in the roles of Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary and Walks Officer. My thanks go to all committee and sub-committee members for their support and contributions during the year.

Bill Gibson  
President  
August 2022

## Brindabella Bushwalking Club

### WALKS OFFICER'S REPORT 2021-22

This year's Walks Program was slightly more stable than last years but only just, with 42 of our walks cancelled because of COVID and on occasions with rain, where the weather was too inclement for even our most hardy of walkers. High temperatures this year were not an issue. Once again the enthusiasm and commitment of our many leaders has maintained the program through the year wherever possible and safe to do so.

On our walks over the twelve month period we have had 2222 participants, with 17 visitors joining us. These walks were initiated and undertaken by over 40 different leaders. It is so pleasing to have such a high level of leadership with participation on activities ranging from 4 to 45 members.

Our Walks Program has continued with a great mix of walks within the ACT, surrounding NSW and away trips on the Wharf to Wharf Walk and Cockatoo Island. One notable exception has been the Orroral Valley with the bridge over Rocky Crossing still out of action. Once the bridge has been replaced it will increase the options for our walks markedly.

Our program provides Easy or Medium and occasionally Hard Walks every Saturday and Sunday either in the ACT or surrounding areas within an hour's drive from the meeting point. On the majority of Wednesdays either on our own, or in conjunction with other Clubs, we provide Easy, Easy-Medium and Medium-Hard walks, all of which which are increasing in popularity. For a short period one of the other Clubs was not able to find leaders and it was great that BBC was able to assist in filling the gaps.

In reviewing the Walks Reports submitted after every activity, we recognise the high numbers on the half day Easy Wednesday Walks and these have been increased to now take place every Wednesday. I thank Robyn Kelly for organising this. Shorter walks on the weekends have also proven popular and we have increased the number of these.

WALKS	NUMBERS ATTENDING
Easy Walks	648
Medium Walks	484
Easy Wednesday Half Day Walks	548
Easy Medium Wednesday Walks	189
Medium Hard Wednesday Walks	164
Walks on Trips Away	200
Walks on Social Activities	118
Training (First Aid and Navigation)	26

**Family Walks and child participants.** For the first time in a long while we had no children on our walks this year. Covid and changing age patterns contributed to this. The Committee will continue to monitor this and will encourage participation where appropriate.

**Leaders:** Our Club thrives on the enthusiasm and commitment of our leaders and without them nothing on our Program would exist, so on behalf of all members of the Club I want to

express my great appreciation to them. They all continue to amaze with offering both new and regular favourite walks for each Program. The Navigation Course has proven a great introduction to leadership for our walks and I'm particularly pleased with the new leaders who have offered walks and the support to these new leaders from our Training Officer.

The Guidelines for Leaders that had been substantially revised last year has stood us in good stead and is continually monitored to ensure that the Guidelines meet the needs of both leaders and walkers in the Club and are consistent with the requirements of Bushwalks NSW with whom we are affiliated.

**Walks Sub-Committee:** The members of this Committee spent a lot of time during the year working with our walks leaders and organising their walks into the Walks Program. In the Program for the current six month period we continue to provide a great range of walks at all of the various walking levels.

The Sub-Committee this year has been:

Easy Wednesday Walks:	Robyn Kelly
Weekend Walks:	Leigh Hermann and Jillian Bellamy
Easy/Medium Wednesday Walks:	Kathy Handel
Medium/Hard Wednesday Walks:	Peter Wellman

I would also like to thank our two Emergency Officers, Doug Finlayson and Col Boreham who have always been just a phone call away if required.

We did participate this year in the Namadgi Walking Trails Consultation and made a submission on behalf of the Club. We encourage the Namadgi National Park managers to continue to support and maintain existing trails and to identify new trails and facilities where possible.

We look forward to another year with an active Walks Program and plan that this will be managed within any COVID, infrastructure or weather restrictions.

David Wardle  
Walks Officer

**Brindabella Bushwalking Club**

**TREASURER'S REPORT 2021-22**

The BBC started the financial year with \$17,235.50 and finished with \$19, 159.60. Our surplus for the year was \$1,924.10.

The income is derived from membership subscriptions and a little interest on monies held in the bank. The subscriptions were higher this year as we have quite a few new members. Additional money was gathered from 8 members who are not currently walk leaders for the First Aid training program, and then paid to the Training Provider. The current 9 walk leaders who did the training were paid for by the Club.

Expenses were lower this year compared to last year as less was spent on equipment, and less on Administration as our AGM was on Zoom because of COVID. Our biggest expense continues to be our Insurance and Affiliation, \$4,242.55 paid to Bushwalking NSW.

The Committee recommends no change in fees for the coming year. However, the rate for taking a passenger in your car has been increased due to the high cost of petrol. The rate from July 1, 2022 is 14 cents/kilometre/person. Given the significant increases in petrol prices this rate will be regularly reviewed and revised.

The Financial spreadsheets, books and receipts have been audited by Louise Dalton who found them to be in order. I would like to thank Louise for so quickly and thoroughly reviewing the Financial Papers, and generously giving her time.

I would also like to thank all the Committee for their support over the year.

Lana Burmester  
Treasurer  
August 2022

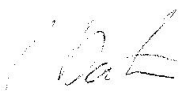
**APPENDIX C**


**BRINDABELLA BUSHWALKING CLUB INCORPORATED**

**1 JULY 2021 to 30 JUNE 2022**

2020-2021		2021-2022
\$17,163.92	<b>OPENING BALANCE</b>	\$17,235.50
	<b>INCOME</b>	
\$7,570.00	Subscriptions	\$8,225.00
\$70.21	Interest on Accounts	\$19.58
\$838.00	Miscellaneous (Training)	\$755.00
<b>\$8,478.21</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$8,999.58</b>
	<b>EXPENSES</b>	
\$0.00	Advertising	\$0.00
\$52.50	Administration (Hall Hire)	\$0.00
\$154.56	Administration	\$66.95
\$1,296.00	Equipment	\$125.00
\$105.95	Auditor's gift	\$0.00
\$1,601.23	Insurance	\$1,525.55
\$2,731.30	Affiliation fees	\$2,717.00
\$575.70	Walk Program Printing	\$470.80
\$115.00	Walk program Postage	\$123.79
\$136.00	PO Box	\$139.00
\$325.44	Social (food, drinks, Hall hire)	\$478.64
\$1,235.00	Training	\$1,330.00
\$77.95	Website	\$98.75
\$0.00	Other	\$0.00
<b>\$8,406.63</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$7,075.48</b>
\$71.58	<b>SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>\$1,924.10</b>
	<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>	
\$5,593.52	Term deposit	\$5,613.10
\$11,641.98	Community Solutions Account	\$13,546.50
<b>\$17,235.50</b>	<b>Total bank accounts</b>	<b>\$19,159.60</b>
\$17,163.92	Members Funds (Starting Balance)	\$17,235.50
\$71.58	Current Year Surplus	\$1,924.10
<b>\$17,235.50</b>	<b>Members Funds (Final Balance)</b>	<b>\$19,159.60</b>

I certify that I have reviewed the BBC Books and Accounts for the Financial year ended 30 June 2022 and find the above Statement represents a true and correct position of the association as at that date.

  
 Louise Dalton  
 Honorary Auditor  
 Dated: 14 Jun 2022

  
 Lana Burmester  
 Honorary Treasurer  
 Dated: 14 July 2022

## APPENDIX C

### Asset Situation as at 30 June 2022

	Description	Acquisition Date	Original Cost	Open WDV	Depn Method (Prime)	YTD Depn	Closing WDV	Comments
	Topographic Maps	Various	Unknown	\$0	100%	\$0	\$0	See below
	Steripen	Feb-08	\$208	\$0	13%	\$0	\$0	Held by Prue Deacon
	Seagate External HDD No 1	Mar-12	\$100	\$0	20%	\$0	\$0	Held by Secretary
	Seagate External HDD No 2	Mar-12	\$100	\$0	20%	\$0	\$0	Held by Webmaster
	Toshiba External HDD No 3	Jun-22	\$125	\$125	20%	\$25	\$100	Held by Walks Officer
	Paper Shredder	Oct-14	\$100	\$0	20%	\$0	\$0	Held by Membership Secretary
	PLB - KTI SA2G	May-16	\$270	\$135	10%	\$27	\$108	Held by John Clune
	PLB - KTI SA2G	May-16	\$270	\$135	10%	\$27	\$108	Held by Leigh Hermann
	Advertising Table Throw	Oct-19	\$150	\$90	20%	\$30	\$60	Held by Secretary
	Advertising Banner	Oct-19	\$184	\$110	20%	\$37	\$73	Held by Secretary
	Lenovo Vivobook laptop	Feb-21	\$648	\$518	20%	\$129	\$389	Held by Secretary
	Lenovo Vivobook laptop	Mar-21	\$648	\$518	20%	\$129	\$389	Held by Membership Secretary
			<b>\$2,803</b>	<b>\$1,631</b>		<b>\$404</b>	<b>\$1,227</b>	

**Notes:** WDV = Written down value  
 Depn = depreciation  
 YTD Depn = this financial year's depreciation

The maps are depreciated by 100% when bought.

No maps have been purchased in recent years. They are now available free online at [www.maps.six.nsw.gov.au](http://www.maps.six.nsw.gov.au) or leaders use GPS.

**BRINDABELLA BUSHWALKING CLUB**

**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT 2021-2022**

Statistics for the membership year:

Memberships:	348	
Adult Members:	424	
Child Members:	18	
Total Members:	442	
New and returned members this year:		89
Memberships not renewed:		43
Family memberships converted to single memberships:		8
BBC leaders:		57 [21,EWW]

Comments:

The club has witnessed a considerable increase in members this year. The membership total has gone from 409 to 442.

The reasons for not renewing have fitted into two categories- members who have left the area and lack of fitness.

Requests for a printed program have remained steady.

I would like to encourage everyone to renew their memberships as soon as they are due on October 1. Memberships which are not renewed before December, disappear from the active list as well as the generic address.

If you do not intend to renew your membership for the coming year, please notify the membership secretary as soon as possible so that your email address can be removed from the Data Base and from the generic list. This will ensure that you are not receiving unnecessary emails. Also, if you are not renewing and have had your email address added to a Wednesday Walks list, you will need to contact the managers of those lists so that your email address can be removed.

It is important that you contact the membership secretary if there is any change to your details, especially your email address, which is the usual way you will be contacted by the club.

Davinia Wells  
Membership Secretary  
Brindabella Bushwalking Club  
28 August, 2022

**Brindabella Bushwalking Club**

**SECRETARY'S REPORT 2021-22**

Your hard working, and dedicated Committee endeavours to keep the Club operating as smoothly and efficiently as possible and fortunately this year Covid 19 has not had such a negative impact on the Club's operations as in the past couple of years. As usual we held three meetings during the year as well as on occasions taking decisions out of session when needed.

The first meeting for the newly elected Committee took place on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at which we discussed the continuing need for caution with arrangements for upcoming social events due to ongoing concerns about Covid 19 with the consequent need to consider outdoor activities rather than events such as Potluck dinners or other indoor social occasions. Changes to website hosting were considered and also the agreement between Peter Ford and Peter Dalton to exchange roles with Peter Ford now taking on responsibility for the BBC Newsletter and Peter Dalton for website and IT issues.

The Club's Covid Safe Plan written by David Wardle and sent out to all members was considered with acknowledgement that it would need to be kept under constant review in the light of everchanging announcements by the ACT government. The Committee also discussed the difficulties in ensuring safe walking situations with respect to the vaccination status of walkers where mandating a double vaccination requirement was not possible. But it was agreed that the ACT government's approach of encouragement rather than mandating was the best course and it had not been a problem so far.

At our second meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 the Committee was updated on a number of improvements made by the Webmaster to information and resources on the Club's website, and of the desirability for all office holders to use Club email addresses rather than personal ones. This has now been effected. The Club Covid Plan had been put on the website and at the time of this meeting did not require any changes.

The number of walkers attending walks continued to increase and the Committee considered ways that this could be handled without the need to restrict numbers as some other clubs do.

Bushwalking NSW (to which we are affiliated) concerns for Child Safety has resulted in their issuing new Guidelines. The Committee considered these in conjunction with a Checklist compiled for BBC use to ensure our compliance with the Guidelines. The BBC website now includes references and links to the Bushwalking NSW Guidelines as does the Guidelines for Leaders document. Changes have also been made to the Club's document retention policy to ensure that all Walks Reports involving children's participation in walks are retained indefinitely.

The Committee continues to maintain a watching brief on the ACT government's Model Rules which form the basis for our constitution to discover when there are changes to dispute resolution measures. We do not intend to make any changes to our constitution until the Model Rules are updated

The last meeting for the Club year held on 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2022 looked at the continuing growth in both membership numbers and Facebook followers attesting to the ongoing popularity of our Club. Some new members appear to be experiencing difficulties in getting onto the Wednesday walks email list and the Committee undertook to take steps to improve communications with this group.

The increasing cost of petrol was becoming an issue for drivers and leading to many enquiries to the Walks Officer. The Committee agreed that travel costs needed to be increased and kept under constant review in the current inflationary environment. There was a report on the annual First Aid training and Navigation courses organised by our very able Training and Development Officer which continue to be enthusiastically taken up by Club members and are proving beneficial to all walkers.



## APPENDIX E

AGM arrangements were notified by the Secretary and fees to be advised to members at the AGM were discussed and agreed. The Committee flagged possible future changes to the constitution and the need to improve processes for encouraging the broader membership to consider volunteering for a Committee position.

I would like to offer special thanks to our Vice President, Prue Deacon who has contributed so much informative advice to the Committee during the year with her research and discussion papers on a number of important issues including on catering for diverse groups of walkers on BBC local walks and trips away, on Bushwalking NSW papers dealing with attracting and maintaining leaders as well as her liaison with Deidre Shaw to get the large number of Club maps indexed and listed on the Club website.

Julie Pettit  
Secretary  
August, 2022

**Brindabella Bushwalking Club**

**SOCIAL CONVENOR'S REPORT 2021-22**

During the 2021/2022 year, the club has enjoyed the following social activities (unfortunately some events cancelled due to covid restrictions):

**Christmas Party – Friday 17 December 2021**

What a wonderful event – perfect weather, great company and a fabulous venue!!! 49 very happy members (including 3 new members) enjoyed chatting, eating and drinking with new and old friends. Rene has kindly hosted this event approximately 4 times. Thank you Rene.

**New Year's Day evening picnic – Saturday 1 January 2022**

26 members enjoyed chatting and eating in Bowen Park, Kingston. Piper, the corgi, was extremely well behaved. The weather was perfect and due to the success of this event, it will be an annual occasion (subject to weather conditions).

**Breakfast, Lake Ginninderra 26 January 2022**

Another fabulous outing enjoyed by 30 attendees. Something for everyone. Riding bikes to lake, riding around lake, walk around the lake or walk to Stella's for morning coffee (yum). Welcome to a new member and potential member. Another great location. Happy group, chatting and catching up with old friends. Lots of positive feedback which sums up why we have these social outings.

**Friday 4 February – annual Mt Ainslie sunset walk**

47 members (including 2 nonogenarians) walked/met at the top of Mt Ainslie and enjoyed drinks and nibbles while chatting with fellow members. Despite being a bit chilly, we were rewarded with a beautiful sunset. Many thanks to the Social Sub-Committee for their contribution and thanks also to Mark the bartender and John who ensured we signed the Walks Report. A great team effort.

**Monday 14 March – heritage walk Queanbeyan**

What a fabulous day in Queanbeyan with 43 members and 2 visitors meeting at Ray Moreton Park for morning coffee and informative talk on the history of Queanbeyan by John McGlynn from the historical society.

I was amazed by the response but all went very well. We split into 3 groups for the heritage walk (almost 2 hours). Some members then left, others had a picnic in the beautiful park and others bought lunch at the Riverbank Café.

After lunch, 23 members visited the Queanbeyan museum (old police residence built in 1876 from handmade bricks). The museum is well worth a visit. The mural of old Queanbeyan by Canberra Artist Margaret Hadfield (Artists Shed) is just one of the highlights. The museum is currently opened by appointment. Contact: John McGlynn - 6297 2730.

Perfect weather and we now know there's more to Queanbeyan than meets the eye.

**Friday 29 April - Autumn picnic / octogenarian and nonagenarian celebration**

What a picture perfect day and Weston Park (near the beautiful pond) was the perfect location. We enjoyed our walk through the beautiful autumn trees and the lake just sparkled. There were 45 attendees, 18 octogenarians and 3 nonagenarians. President Bill spoke of the contributions and achievements of our older club members, eg Ray Franzi (92) was a founding member in 1969 and has held every position on the committee. Thanks to the older members who have laid the foundation for a successful club.

**Friday 13 May – Potluck dinner**

What a wonderful evening!!! 40 attendees enjoyed sharing a meal and catching up with old friends. Potluck dinners are still a winner, so will continue as an annual event.

## APPENDIX F

Thanks to everyone for your yummy food contributions and helping stack tables, chairs and clean up at the end of the night. A great group effort.

David Briese, guest speaker, spoke about the Great South Coast Walk. After early retirement in 2004, David and his wife Pennie decided to walk from Bundeena to Victoria while they pondered their future. 3 months later, a great walk was in the making. Hopefully this walk will become an iconic Aussie walk for Australians and overseas visitors (the 660km walk can be divided into sections).

The newsletters have included a blog and photos from our social events. More photos on Facebook.

Thank you to the members of the Social Sub-Committee (Colleen, Julie, Monty, Wendy, Ian, Gayle and Lorena) for your contribution to the club's social events. Thanks to Mark too - a great team, pitching in behind the scenes to make our social events successful. Monty is not continuing on the Social sub-committee, but Mark has happily joined the team.

Winter months have been quiet for social events, but lots in store coming up in the warmer months. The first event will be the spring picnic in Weston Park, Friday 21 October.

Elaine Atkinson  
Social Convenor  
August 2022

**Brindabella Bushwalking Club**

**TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER REPORT – 2021-22**

**Walk Leaders' First Aid Course**

Successful completion of a first aid course is not a mandatory requirement for walk leaders, but is strongly recommended.

BBC first aid courses are tailored to contain both the requirements of our club and most of our leaders, with consideration given to:

- a. cost,
- b. bushwalkers specific first aid, and
- c. the practical component must not exceed one day.

The course is open to all BBC members, with walks leaders being funded by the BBC.

The cost per person this year was \$95.

This year's nationally accredited senior First Aid course consisted of an online component followed by a half day practical including a BBC specific bushwalking component.

The course was conducted by Canberra First Aid.

Thirteen people attended this year's BBC First Aid Course and special thanks goes out to Leigh Hermann for stepping in to administer the course due to my absence.

Was disappointed in that the instructor had not seen the list of the bushwalking specific items Canberra First Aid had agreed to cover. Consequently, some agreed items were not covered. Moreover, the presentation was truncated by one hour to meet the timing of the succeeding course. Hopefully this shall not reoccur next year.

Most people liked the online element of the course.

**Navigation and Leadership Training**

Successful completion of the Navigation and Leadership course is not a mandatory requirement for walk leaders, but is strongly recommended.

Thirteen people attended the 2021 Navigation and Leadership Training Course.

The BBC has an ageing membership, but we are getting new members who wish to become leaders.

The content of the training comprises a one-day introductory course on daylight terrestrial navigation training (mapcraft, compass, GPS etc) plus the duties and responsibilities of a Walks Leader.

The course was held in a bush setting with participants divided into three groups led respectively by; Terrylea Reynolds, Bill Gibson and Bob Chittenden.

The 2022 Navigation and Leadership Training Course shall be advertised October/November via Email and shall be held on a Tuesday.

Bob Chittenden

BBC Training and Development Officer

28 July, 2022

**Brindabella Bushwalking Club**

**FACEBOOK ACTIVITY REPORT 2021- 2022**

The Facebook page is reaching 760 people and we have had nearly 800 likes over the past year.

The page is to provide members and others interested in the Club with information about the walks and social events being held by the Club. I also post articles which I think may be of interest to members. The page provides a contact point for queries about membership and other issues.

Messaging/Inbox Activity: The messaging feature continues to be well utilised by visitors/members.

Walks and Trip photos and reports: I really appreciate the contribution of members and followers. As an easy and easy/med walker I particularly enjoy the reports of walks that are above my walking grade. That said though, I enjoy all contributions. I get feedback from other members that this is also a highlight for them. Thank you very much to all contributors.

Conclusion: As a means of advertising the Club and informing members and followers of upcoming walks and events, the Club's Facebook strategy continues to be successful. I encourage anybody who takes photos to send them to me – you don't have to include a report. I also encourage people who do multi day walks, independent of the club, particularly interstate (or overseas if that ever happens again) to share their photos and experiences with us so that members might get new ideas for their leisure and holidays.

Heather McLoughlin

12 August,2022

facebook@brindabellabushwalking.org.au